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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 12 December 1952

25X1 SUBJECT Proposed Increase in Sulfuric Acid Production
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NO. OF PAGES 2

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 26 March 1952, the Ministry of Mining and Smelting was requested by the State Planning Commission to assure a sulfuric acid production of 40,000 tons for 1952, which was about 10,000 tons above the amount set in the National Economic Plan for 1952.
2. In order to guarantee this proposed raise in production, the State Planning Commission proposed the immediate erection of sulfur-burning furnaces in Mansfeld-Korbinnat "Wilhelm Pieck", Lutherstadt Eisleben, Hüttenwerk Halsbrücke VEB, Halsbrücke near Freiberg, Saxony, and Hüttenwerk Muldenhütten, VEB, Muldenhütten near Freiberg, Saxony. It also proposed an increase in sulfur-burning in the available furnaces wherever possible.
3. A survey was made by the Ministry to determine how the plants under the Ministry could alleviate the present sulfuric acid shortage. The following result was obtained. The figures are in tons.

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>I. quarter</u>	<u>II. quarter</u>	<u>III. quarter</u>	<u>IV. quarter</u>
Mansfeld	29,900	6,700	7,200	8,000	8,000
Muldenhütten	3,100	585	715	900	900
Malsbrücke	<u>5,500</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>1,360</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,520</u>
	38,500	7,405	9,275	10,400	10,420

The difference between the figures of the above survey and the suggestions of the State Planning Commission was attributed to the fact that at conferences with the State Planning Commission it was assumed that the sulfur-burning furnaces would be in operation in a short time.

4. The results of the dealings with KIB Leuna¹ established that the sulfur-burning furnace planned for Mansfeld would not be finished before the end of 1952. At the same time the expectations for Halsbrücke and Muldenhütte were no longer valid, because the installation at Halsbrücke was an old one which would be taken out of operation at the end of 1953, and the building of an additional one would not pay. A contact installation was to be built in Muldenhütte, the construction stages of which

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would both yield a daily production of 40 tons, which would make an additional sulfur-burning furnace unnecessary. The first construction stage was to be ready for operation by the beginning of 1952 (the roasting plant was already in operation), but owing to the failure of KIB Leuna's subcontractors to deliver on time, the contact furnace was not yet finished. The KIB Leuna could not name another finishing date as of 3 May 1952.

5. It was proposed that the first construction stage at Muldenbuetten be accelerated so that the expected sulfuric acid production could be estimated; suitable instructions for the subcontractors of KIB Leuna were recommended. It was felt, furthermore, that the termination dates for the second construction stage, planned for 1953, could be advanced to assure adequate sulfuric acid supplies. If such special measures were introduced, the first construction stage could be finished by the end of October 1952 and the second one during July 1953. An additional 2,500,000 eastmarks would have to be provided by the State Planning Commission for the second construction stage.
6. In case it should be decided to build the sulfur-burning furnace at Mansfeld immediately, despite the time required to put it into operation, a further 500,000 eastmarks would be necessary. KIB Leuna has so far regarded this figure only as a rough estimate.

1. Comment: Konstruktions - und Ingenieurbüro Leuna does construction work for the chemical industry.

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